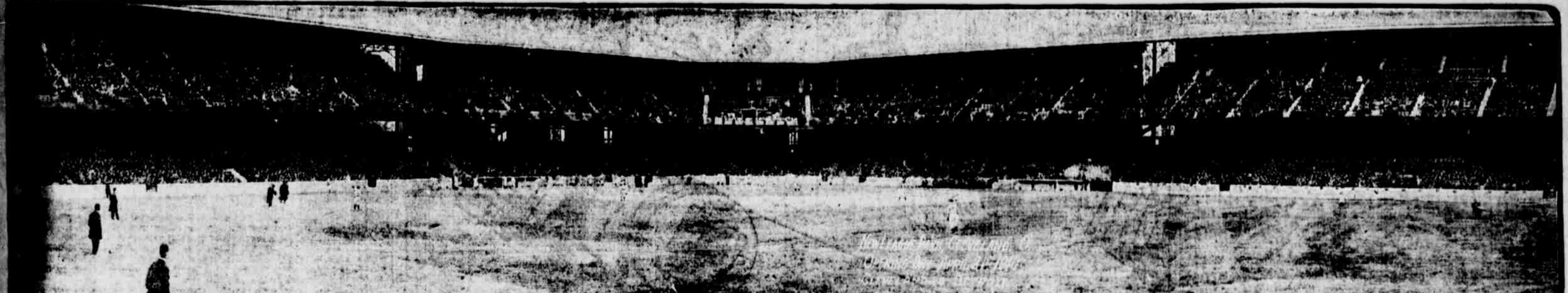


CHASE'S MEN HAVE
ATHLETICS ON RUN

NEWS OF ALL BRANCHES OF SPORT

EDITED BY
ROBERT EDGREN

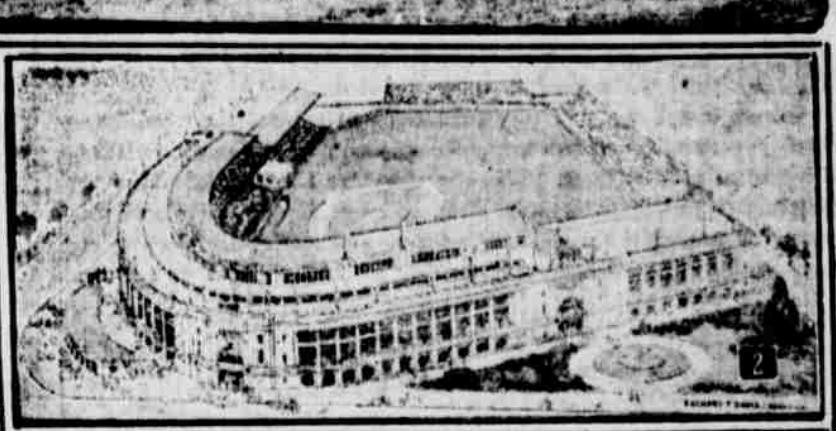
HERE'S THE KIND OF STEEL AND CONCRETE STADIUM GIANTS' OWNER PLANS TO GIVE NEW YORK



OUTSIDE OF CLEVELAND PARK



AMERICAN LEAGUE GROUNDS PHILADELPHIA



PITTSBURG'S GROUNDS

Inside the Ring
with the
Great Fighters
by
Charley White.America's Foremost Referee
Tells How Erne Lost to
McGovern in Three
Rounds and Then Later
Lost Lightweight Title to
Gans in a Few Seconds
of Fighting.

NO. 7—FRANK ERNE.

FRANK ERNE was a strong, sturdy fellow, and he always believed in having plenty of food, whether he was in or out of training. He was particularly fond of heavy, rich foods, and he seldom went to bed without a full stomach. He was a very good fighter, and he was always in the ring with the best of them.

Erne's father, an old Swiss patriot, was a vineyardist at Zurich when Frank was born in 1875. As soon as Frank had made some money he bought a vineyard near Buffalo for his father. No matter where Frank might be, his father always kept him supplied with home-made wine.

Remember the time when Erne was training for his fight with McGovern. Frank had agreed to weigh 125 pounds in the ring, and as he was a full-blooded lightweight it seemed that he would have to diet and abstain from drinking any more than he could help if he was to make the weight. He was training over at Oceanic, N. J., and one day I went over there to watch him do his training. I remained for dinner and saw Erne drink a quart of his father's wine.

"Better have some of this, it's very fine," said Erne.

"Honest, Frank, I don't see how you can expect to make the weight if you drink so much wine," I remarked to him.

"It don't hurt me at all—I work it right off. Besides, I've always taken wine with my meals," he replied.

Hard to Reduce.

But five days before the fight was to take place Erne started to punish himself terribly. It was cruel, I doubt that he ever ate or drank anything during those last days. But weight forfeits were up, and he found "125" was almost impossible for him to make. As he dropped to the weight he found it impossible to do any roadwork. He was too light to do any boxing, and for hours each day he would sit out in the sun in a rowboat, bathing out every ounce of moisture the heat could draw out through his dried up frame.

Erne, when he found the bad condition he was getting into, should have called off the bout. McGovern was so fat that he could not get into the ring. But Frank, a game and very sensitive fellow, believed he could whip Featherweight Champion McGovern under any circumstances. Besides agreeing to make the low weight it was agreed that Erne should knock out Terry in ten rounds or lose the decision. The fight took place before a record-breaking house in Madison Square Garden July 15, 1901, and was one of the last big fights to be held before the Horton law went out.

It was terribly hot in the Garden that night, and there was not a man in the place who didn't remove his coat. Ten-cent fans sold for a dollar. Eight thousand colored shirtwaists were exposed to view, and the night was one never to be forgotten.

I had been chosen referee, and when the men were ready to weigh in I was on the job. Erne balanced the scales exactly at 125 pounds, and Terry was slightly underweight.

As Frank stepped off the scales I felt sorry for him. Every blue vein showed through his skin, and it was plain he had made a bad bargain when he agreed to reduce himself to the stipulated weight.

Turning to "Terrible Terry," Erne,

grasping McGovern by the hand, said: "There's going to be some hard fighting to-night, Terry. There was the look of a real fighter in Frank's face as he shook Terry's hand, and I then knew beyond any doubt that he was a very game man."

Terry's reply to Erne was: "Well, Frank, you can't stop me in ten rounds—you want to watch out that I don't get you."

"This will never go ten rounds," said Frank, as he started for his dressing room. "Somebody will hit the boards." Perhaps Frank had some premonition as to what was going to happen that night.

The fight proved a great surprise. Without any preliminary sparring McGovern rushed at Erne. This was just what Erne had hoped for, but little expected. He realized he couldn't last through ten hard rounds of milling. Rights and lefts flew fast and furiously. It was the greatest mix-up I had ever seen. Instead of Erne trying to last ten rounds he was trying to score a knockout in one round. Erne's cleverness and hard hitting was beautiful to watch. Suddenly he landed a right to Terry's head, and the latter went down. The crowd thought the fight was over. Erne, it was the heaviest rally I had ever seen. Terry had a shade the beat of the round, and it was evident that

"BETTER HAVE SOME OF THIS, IT'S VERY FINE"



Erne's strength was fast going, and that he was suffering intensely from the dreadful heat.

The second round was a repetition of the first, almost up to the last minute. Then Terry suddenly landed a fierce right hand to Erne's body. Reeling from the shock, with his eyes closed, Erne landed an uppercut that almost tore McGovern's hair from his shoulders. In the following round McGovern drove powerful rights and lefts to Erne's body. He went down, as Frank recovered his feet Terry sent another to the body, and Erne, with his mouth opened like a cellar door, again went down. He was done for. I then stopped the fight.

Was a Real Fight.

The battle had been one of real fighting, and although it lasted less than three full rounds the crowd was satisfied. Terry McGovern was proclaimed a hero, and poor Erne was almost entirely forgotten. They each received \$2,000 for the four minutes of fighting.

Erne was discouraged over the outcome of the fight with McGovern, and took life very easy after that affair. However, he was again matched with Joe Gans, and they fought at Jack Herman's old Fort Erie A. C., May 12, 1902.

"There are conditions I insist on," said Erne. A few days before the match was made. "One is that the battle takes place near Buffalo, as I want to show my home friends that I am a real champion. The second condition is that the weight be 135 pounds at 3 P. M. I also want Charlie White to referee."

The betting was light. Erne's friends knew that he'd lost his great fighting form, but Frank trained most faithfully for the fight.

It was one of the shortest fights on record, where a championship was at stake.

The men came to the centre of the ring, fiddled and fidgeted. Erne caught Gans with two light lefts, and Gans got in one body blow. Coming out of a clinch both led with lefts and prepared to deliver right crosses. Erne, off balance, ducked to the wrong side.

GANS LANDING ON ERNE'S JAW



as also did Gans. At the same time they both swung lefts and then let go their rights. Gans landed on Erne's jaw. Frank was knocked down, but he was not insensible. His legs seemed paralyzed, but it was apparent that he realized everything that was going on in the ring. He squirmed around on the floor like a chicken with its neck wrung. I counted "ten," and as he was unable to get up I gave the decision to Gans.

The most astonished men in the building were Gans and Erne. Gans could hardly realize that he had done so much damage with one blow and Erne was entirely bewildered over the unexpected ending of the battle.

Erne Was Careless.

After the fight I visited Erne's dressing room. I have always made it my duty to extend my sympathy to the loser.

"Well, Frank, I think it was your own fault," said I. "You were careless in ducking the way you did."

"It's too bad," he replied. "I wanted my Buffalo friends to see that I was a champion. I trained hard and it's mighty tough to lose the title in one punch. I wouldn't have cared if I got a kicking as long as I could have had the chance to show my friends that I can fight. However, it can't be helped now."

Returning on the boat to the American side I met Gans.

I remarked to him: "Joe, you won a quick decision for a championship title. 'Mañana Charlie, I'm most' frustrated. I was prepared for a hard fight. I was sure surprised. It's too bad she done wound up that there way," replied Gans.

In 1902, during the Coronation Bout at London, Frank met and defeated in seven rounds J. Maloney, the English lightweight champion. Erne made such a hit with his wonderful fighting in that bout that he was immediately taken up by the members of the National Sporting Club. He and Tommy Ryan both made a great hit with the British fight fans.

Although I must acknowledge the greatest admiration for Erne as a fighter, still, McAuliffe, the first man to hold the lightweight title, to my mind was the greater all around fighter the class has ever seen.

McAuliffe's sturdy body and robust constitution would have proven a great advantage had he met Erne when Jack was at his best. In eleven years there would be little to choose between them. Erne was a more showy boxer, but took life very easy after that affair. McAuliffe had a middleweight's upper body. He started at the same as a full fledged lightweight, while Erne began as a featherweight. All things considered, I must give McAuliffe the preference.

Erne was a great credit to the game. He was a gentleman in every respect, and the ring lost an splendid representative when Frank went into retirement. The new chapter, appearing Monday, will be on "Joe Gans."

GIANTS TO HAVE BEST
STADIUM IN AMERICAOwner Brush Plans to Build
Concrete and Steel Stand
Encircling Field.

WITHIN the past three years more than \$2,000,000 has been expended in the building of baseball stands that are fireproof and easily emptied, and the management of the Giants will have some excellent models from which to design their new park, which Owner John T. Brush proposes to make the greatest stadium in America.

Year after year temporary additions were made to the Polo Grounds to accommodate the increasing demand for seats, and the Building Department now wonders that a catastrophe causing great loss of life did not occur before the wooden affairs were burned to the ground. Luckily, in the middle of the night, a steel and concrete plant would have been built long ago but for the inability of the New York Club to secure a long lease on the grounds.

Among the architects the building of baseball and football stands has become an important feature of their art. Since baseball has become an established institution, the owners of the various franchises have seen the necessity of having permanent structures that will not endanger the lives of their patrons. Years ago a slapstick structure of any kind answered the purpose because the future of the great outdoor sport was then uncertain.

First Step at Pittsburgh.

The first big step toward building a modern baseball stand was made at Pittsburgh, when Barney Dreyfuss and his associates invested nearly a million dollars in Forbes Field. The stands there are built of concrete and steel, and with three decks, have a seating capacity of something like 25,000. The main feature to these grounds is the

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great number of exits. Instead of steep inclines of concrete slope from one deck to the other. By this means a crowd of 25,000 can be emptied from the stands in five minutes. The only wood in the entire plant is the bottoms of the seats and the chairs in the boxes. A fire is practically impossible.

Following the example of Pittsburgh Ben Shibe and his associates at Philadelphia built the present American League grounds known as Shibe Park. While they have a larger seating capacity than Forbes Field, the Philadelphia grounds are not so perfectly arranged for a speedy exit. Shibe Park represents an outlay of more than \$500,000.

The next to erect a great plant was the American League Club at Chicago, and this is generally conceded to be the most complete of them all. Next to the Polo Grounds it had the greatest seating capacity of any ball park in America.

Modern Plant at Cleveland.

A still more recent plant that has attracted national attention is the one at Cleveland, O., which was completed in time for the opening of the present season. Like its predecessors, the Cleveland plant is built entirely of concrete and steel and is a double-decker. It has the sloping exits like those at Pittsburgh and can be emptied in a few minutes. The Cleveland grounds have a seating capacity of 15,000, which does not include the old wooden bleachers, which can easily accommodate 2,000.

All of these modern structures form a semicircle around the diamond. None of them completely circles the field, as did the stands at the Polo Grounds. Mr. Brush plans to have a steel and concrete stand completely circling the field, and if possible he wants to give it very much the same appearance as the old Polo Grounds, which, despite their wooden supports, were considered the most picturesque in America.

It will be at least a month before the building at the Polo Grounds can be started, as it will take that long to adjust the insurance losses.

Although admitting that the Hilltops outplayed the Athletics in the two contests here, the followers of the world's champions are blaming the defeat on lack of condition of the home players.

Manager Chase will probably send a few of his players home from here tomorrow, where they will work out in their own field until the big summer reports for practice on the hill next Thursday.

The calling off of yesterday's game here was a severe blow to the Hilltops. Manager Chase has certainly thrown a bombshell into the ranks of the world's champions and their followers. The Athletics never counted for an instant on two straight defeats at the hands of Chase's youths, and they have not yet recovered from their surprise.

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CHASE HAS THROWN
BOMBHELL INTO
RANKS OF CHAMPSAthletics Attribute two Defeats
by Hilltops to Lack of
Condition.

(Special to The Evening World.) PHILADELPHIA, April 15.—The Hilltops are counting the days until they strike "Little Old New York" once more. It has been a long trip for the squad, harrased Hartwell, who is not sick and tired of hotel life. As for Hartwell, the bridegroom, he is too happy to know whether he is dining in a canteen or in a light lunch cafe.

Many of the Hilltoppers have not yet secured boarding places in New York, and they will have to do some fast hunting as soon as they strike the big city. The team will not return home from their trip until late next Wednesday night, after their game with Washington, and the next few days cannot pass too quickly for the crowd that has the championship law hanging.

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TWO MEMBERS OF
ENGLISH POLO CUP
SEEKING TEAM HERECapts. Lloyd and Wilson Are
the First of the Britons
to Arrive.

The first section of the English polo team, which will fight to retrieve the international cup on the Meadow Brook field on May 21, June 3 and 7, consisting of Capt. Hardress Lloyd of the Twenty-first Lancers, captain of the team, and Capt. Herbert Wilson of the Yeomanry arrived on the Louisiana. Both are clean cut and outspoken, presenting the appearance of the highest type of athletic Englishman. They charmed all on board by their simplicity of bearing and manner.

Capt. Lloyd said the season in England had been too wet for good practice. "We have resounded the off-side rule in England for one year," said the captain, "to try it. But here we play under your own rules."

Referring to the American team that took the international cup at Hurlingham, Capt. Lloyd said: "The Americans not only were better at team work but better individually. They were also better at scoring goals. Our defeat was a good thing for us. We had got sleepy. It woke us up. We had too much of a family affair over there."

Capt. Wilson has been here twice before. He was here a short while last spring, and has played a very little polo here. Capt. Wilson said he had enjoyed the trip. He was interested in the American weather, and wanted to know if it wasn't rather uncertain about this time of year.

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GOODMAN BACK IN RING
TO MEET YOUNG AHEARN.

Jack Goodman, the idol of the West Side, will return to the ring next Thursday night at the Whirlwind Athletic Club, Brooklyn. Goodman has been resting for four months, but has gone into strict training. Goodman will meet Young Ahearn in a ten-round contest and he will have to take all his old speed and cleverness into the ring to get away with the clever Englishman, who has a long list of unbroken victories. All the Brooklyn, as well as the New York fans, are excited over this match which ought to be one of the best of the year.

Tham's White Elephant
Crawling and Billings Academy,
51st St. and Broadway. 2217 West.

AMUSEMENTS.
NOW MADISON SQ. GARDEN
TWICE DAILY, 2:15 & 8:15 P. M.
Short Season. Shows begin at 1:15 and 7:15.

CARNUM & BAILEY
\$3,500,000 CAPITAL
400 CIRCUS ARTISTS
1000 NEW CIRCUS
WONDERS
DAILY
50 CLOTHES
1280
PERSONS
108
CAGE TAG

MANHATTAN
CARTER
SUNDAY
MATTIE & NORTON
HIGGINS

HAMMERSTEN'S
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

NEO COHAN'S
COHAN'S
WALLINGFORD
GRAND
REHECRA OF
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

ALHAMBRA
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

BRONX
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

WALLACK'S
POMANDER WALK
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

ACADEMY
MICHAEL STROGOFF
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

WINTERGARTEN
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

COLUMBIA
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

BROOKLYN AMUSEMENTS.
EMPIRE
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

AMPHION
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

PAYTON'S THEATRE
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

THE SPORTING DUGGESS
K. V. 25c to \$1. Daily Mat. 25c to \$1.

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